

12/17/68

Dear Charlie and Jamie,

The treadmill has been turning a bit faster since I saw you, hence the delay in responding to your kind note of about two weeks ago, which reached me promptly in New Orleans.

I hope you are making a good and speedy recovery. I know you miss Jamie as she does you, but without her, perhaps you've gotten more of the essential rest than you otherwise would.

It is difficult to be tolerant of Steve, but I urge it on you. For his years he has been very good. For his understanding and capability, he has been very bad. Once he adjusts again, perhaps he'll revert to the very good. There are some heavy traumas awaiting him, and he may not take them too well. Most of the "work" that has been done out there has been a monster diversion. The effect on the now-pending trial (and I do expect it to come off now) may be disastrous. It has bleb the investigation of both time and money, and has kept it on the wrong track. The real and useful work that could have been done in New Orleans wasn't, and that is a catastrophe. I have been doing some, and it has been very successful, but it is not, for the most part, pertinent to the Shaw indictment.

When I am again there, I will tell you and the others more. Until then, if my word is of any value to you, Bill Turner was a major part of it. I know this is not what most of you think, but once you know the facts, it is without doubt. He led Jim off on more bum steers than everyone else combined.

Not only did I not know of the Santa Barbara arrangements, but when I asked Steve and said without such an arrangement I just could not do it, he said there were no arrangements. If you can, will you please explain to them? I believe I discussed this with you, so you know it is true. As it is, after applying the small honorarium, I am about \$125.00 in the hole on the fare alone on that trip. I dared not risk further indebtedness. Please also tell them that when I am again out there, you will know and, I hope, you will see to it that things go properly. I'll be more than willing to appear there, if they so desire.

The device, for which I had urgent need, did arrive in New Orleans, inoperative. I do not blame him for that, though.

There is now no great rush in returning the ms because I'll have to go to New Orleans again, probably a week or so before the trial begins. I'll also be having to get many files ready for that, and wondering if withall I'll not anticipate the right ones. Should I get that done in time I will return to the work that remains on this ms - and I would like to be able to. Do not send it registered, which is very costly. Please wrap it well and send special fourth-class rate, educational material, which will cost about 18-24¢, plus special handling, 30 or 35¢ and which carries it as first-class mail, and insurance for \$75.00, which should cover the Xeroxing cost, should it go wrong, another 30-40¢.

My best wishes to you all and a hope for a fine holiday season and a good year. To Jamie a special hug and my pleasure at knowing she remembers the words I taught her.

Sincerely,